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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Brown et al.

Application No.:

09/197,278

Filed:

November 20, 1998

For:

Improved Longitudinally Flexible Expandable Stent

Examiner:

Vy Q. Bui

Group Art Unit:

3731

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL LETTER

TO: Examiner Bui

FACSIMILE NO.: 703-872-9306

GROUP ART UNIT: 3731

TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES (including cover letter):

DATE: November 1, 2004

Docket No.: S63.2-6769-US01

TIME: _

Following please find a 13 page Amendment in addition to this 1 page Facsimile Transmittal Letter.

If a fee is required, Commissioner of Patents is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 22-0350 for any required fees. To the extent that any petition is required to consider this communication, please treat this as such a petition.

Respectfully Submitted,

VIDAS, ARRETT & STEINKRAUS, P.A.

Date: November 1, 2004

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and

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Rebecca M. Painschab

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Brian J. Brown, Michael Davis, David Friesen, Timothy J. Ley

and Sean P. Skubitz

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Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Docket No.: S63.2B-6769-US01

AMENDMENT

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated June 1, 2004.

If an extension of time is required to make this response timely and no separate petition is enclosed, Applicant hereby petitions for an extension of time sufficient to make the response timely. In the event that this response requires the payment of government fees and payment is not enclosed, please charge Deposit Account No. 22-0350.

Please amend the application as follows: